



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



Home

Meetings

Members

Officers

Newsletter

E. Iowa DX Bulletin

Buy-Sell-Trade

DXCC Card Checking

About EIDX

History

Constitution & Bylaws

DX Resources

The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 282, July 11, 2025

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

This bulletin is available via email subscription only. See

<http://www.arrl.org/bulletins> to subscribe. (The online archive is no longer updated.)

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

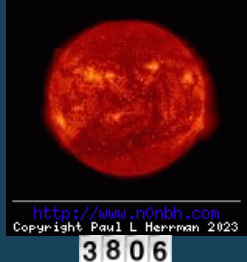
Dr. Tony Phillips' SpaceWeather.com, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

12 Jul 2025 1717 GMT
SFI: 132 SN: 93
A-Index: 19
K-Index: 3
X-Ray: C1.3
304A: 124.4 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 13
Elc Flx: 1500
Aurora: 3/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): 3.1
Solar Wind: 494.0
Geomag Field UNSETTLD
Sig Noise Lvl S2-S3
Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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3806

DX News

5B, CYPRUS. WJ2O signs **5B/WJ2O** from **July 10th to 15th**. QSL via [N2NZ](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

8Q, MALDIVES. Maxim, OH7O will be active as **8Q7YY** from the Maldives (AS-013) on **July 17th-25th**.

He will operate SSB (FT8 "from time to time") on 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6 meters. QSL via LoTW.

"No QSL cards are planned, but if a strong interest is expressed, I will discuss with a QSL manager".

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

BY, CHINA. Members of the Chinese Radio Amateurs Club will be active during the IARU HF Championship (July 12th-13th) as **B1HQ, B4HQ, B5HQ, and B7HQ**.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0718)

C9, MOZAMBIQUE. OK8AU, UA3QLC, and R7AL activate Chiloane Island (AF-098) from **July 13th to 19th** as **C93RRC** on HF (CW, SSB, FT8). QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

CN, MOROCCO. Andre, HB9HLM will be active holiday style as **CN2NE** from Morocco on **July 15th-22nd**. He will be QRV on 40-6 meters from grid locator IM63dm. QSL via eQSL and QRZ Logbook; he does not plan to have paper cards.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0711-0725)

CN, MOROCCO. Michel, F5LRL will be QRV as **CN2DX** near Kenitra from **June 25th to August 30th**. Activity is on 40 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8 generally during his early morning (0500-1000 UTC) and evening (1800-2200 UTC) hours. QSL via [F5LRL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 25 June 19, 2025] (0620-0829)

CT, PORTUGAL. Special event station **CR5Q** will be active on **July 14th-20th** for the 43rd International Motorcycle Rally in Faro, Portugal. Expect activity on 80-6 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. QSL via [CT1EHX](#).

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

DL, GERMANY. Members of the local chapters in the Ruhr District of the DARC will be active as **DL25WUG** on **July 16th-27th** during the FISU Summer World University Games. All QSOs will be confirmed via the bureau; QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog, QRZ Logbook and DCL.

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0801)

DL, GERMANY. Special event station **DFØELM** celebrates an anniversary of their local municipality on **July 14th (0800-1600z)** on 80, 40, 20, and 10m (CW, SSB, FT8). QRV from the castle Warberg located in POTA DE-0077, WWFF DL-0055, COTA NSB 101, WCA DL-03040. QSL via bureau, eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DLØSOP** will be active on **July 1st-31st** for the 67th edition of the Sea of Peace Award (see <https://dl0sop.darc.de/> for full details). QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW and eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1782 June 28, 2025] (0627-0801)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of July 11, 2025:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. VKØM	Macquarie Island
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. KH4	Midway Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. KP5	Desecheo Island
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
8. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	18. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands
9. YVØ	Aves Island	19. VKØH	Heard Island
10. EZ	Turkmenistan	20. FT/T	Tromelin Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF July 11, 2025] (0711-0801)

EI, IRELAND. Gordon, G3PXT will be active as **EJ3VP** from Arranmore Island (EU-121) from **June 25th to July 2nd**, and from Inisheer Island (EU-006) on **July 25th-30th**, IOTA Contest included. He will operate SSB on 80-6 meters. These operations are part of a three-month tour of Ireland (EI/G3PXT/p and EI3VP/p) and Northern Ireland (GI3PXT/p) that started on June 4th and will end on September 5th.

-[425DXN # 1782 June 28, 2025] (0627-0801)

F, FRANCE. Special callsign **TM5VDL** will be active on **July 5th-19th** from Dunkirk during the second stage of this year's edition of the Tall Ships Races. QSL via [F8KGS](#).

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0704-0725)

F, FRANCE. Nicolas, F4HCG will be active as **F4HCG/p** from Noirmoutier Island (EU-064) on **July 5th-18th**. He will operate SSB on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meters.

-[425DXN # 1782 June 28, 2025] (0704-0718)

F, FRANCE. French special callsigns to be activated for this year's 112th edition of the Tour de France include:

TM25TDF by Radio Club Emettre from **July 2nd to 26th**, QSL via [F5KMY](#).

TM59TDF by Radio Club de l'Agglomération Dunkerquoise on **July 5th-19th**,
QSL via [F8KGS](#) and eQSL

TM112TDF by F8GGZ from **July 5th to 26th**, QSL via eQSL only.

-[425DXN # 1782 June 28, 2025] (0627-0725)

FP, ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON. Once again Eric, KV1J will be active as **FP/KV1J** from Miquelon Island (NA-032) from **June 28th to July 14th**, including activity in the IARU HF World Championship (July 12th-13th). He plans to operate SSB and FT8, plus some CW and FT4, on 80-6 meters, "generally on the highest frequency band open" with a focus on 12, 10 and 6m. See

<http://www.kv1j.com/fp/July25.html> for more information. This trip is in memory of Jean-Pierre, FP5CJ, who passed away in September 2024. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), eQSL, or via [KV1J](#).

-[425DXN # 1780 June 14, 2025] (0627-0718)

G, ENGLAND. During the IARU HF World Championship (**July 12th-13th**) five stations -**GBØWR**, **GB2WR**, **GB5WR**, **GB8WR**, and **GB9WR** - will be active on 80-10 meters SSB and CW and tested under field conditions. They will be using the exact planned equipment for the WRTC 2026 event as a trial. The operating location will be a cluster of sites within the grounds of the Euston Estate, Suffolk (England). There will be two awards available for chasers during this event, complete information on <https://www.wrtc2026.org/wrtc-test-event-july-2025/>.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0711-0718)

GM, SCOTLAND. HQ multiplier **GR2HQ** will represent the UK during the IARU HF Championship (**July 12th-13th**). Also, the RSGB is organizing the GR2HQ Challenge to encourage ops to work the GR2HQ stations in each of the 12 band mode slots.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0718)

HB, SWITZERLAND. The 2025 UEFA Women's Championship will run from **July 2nd to 27th** in Switzerland, and eight special event stations will be active from the host cities throughout July:

HB2Ø25BA (Basel),

HB2Ø25BE (Bern),

HB2Ø25GE (Geneve),

HB2Ø25LU (Lucerne),

HB2Ø25SG (St. Gallen),

HB2Ø25SI (Sion),

HB2Ø25TH (Thun), and

HB2Ø25ZH (Zurich).

Certificates will be available for contacts made on CW, Phone and/or Digital. See

<https://www.qrz.com/db/HB2025BA> for the details. QSL via LoTW only, paper cards will not be provided.

-[425DXN # 1782 June 28, 2025] (0627-0801)

HL, SOUTH KOREA. Special event station **HL7ØKARL** commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Korean Amateur Radio League (KARL), first established on April 20, 1955. QSL via LoTW; paper cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0704-0725)

HR, HONDURAS. Team **HQ9HC** (namely W5BAK, W5HV, WA5LEE, WB5HJV and WP4VW) will be active from Roatan Island (NA-057) on **July 14th-20th**. Activity will be "all bands, all modes". See <https://www.qrz.com/db/HQ9HC> for the QSL route.

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

HS, THAILAND. The Asian Team Nr 3 for WRTC 2026 will be testing their equipment during the IARU HF Championship (July 12th-13th) this year as **E21WRTC**. They will also be QRV before and after the

contest from **July 12th until August 10th**. QSL via [E21EIC](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0815)

I, ITALY. HQ multipliers **I11HQ**, **I12HQ**, **I14HQ**, **I16HQ** and **I19HQ** will represent the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI) on the six contest bands, both CW and SSB, during next weekend's IARU HF World Championship (**July 12th-13th**). See <https://hqspeedaward.ari.it> for the "I1xHQ Speed Award", with certificates for working ARI HQ stations on different bands and modes in the shortest possible time.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0711-0718)

J3, GRENADA. Eric, GM5RDX will be active as **J38DX** on 80-6 meters with two stations at the same time from **July 5th to July 13th**. "I expect to have an FT8 station operational soon after my arrival on Saturday evening, with the SSB station being set up on Sunday morning", he says. "Band conditions permitting, I expect to be fully operational with two stations by around 11am Sunday (1600 UTC)". Graham, 2MØIJU (J38LD), who had planned to accompany Eric, had to cancel his trip to Grenada at the last moment. QSL via [MØOXO's QQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0704-0725)

JW, SVALBARD. Vlad, OK2WX will be active as **JWØV** from Longyearbyen (EU-026), Svalbard on **July 14th-23rd**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. See <https://www.mdxc.support/jw0v/> for more information. QSL via [I8KHC](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0711-0725)

JX, JAN MAYEN. Peter, LB2OG is QRV as **JX/LB2OG** while on work assignment. Activity is in his spare time and currently on 40 and 20 meters, and possibly other higher bands, using SSB and FT8. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to [LB2OG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 26 June 26, 2025] (0627-0718)

KHØ, MARIANA IS. John, WB6Z, signs **KHØ/WB6Z** from **July 10th to 15th** on 160-6m (CW, SSB, FT4/8) from Saipan (OC-086). QSL via [JF1OCQ](#), LoTW, [ClubLog's QQRS](#), qrz.com.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

LY, LITHUANIA. Ric, DL2VFR, has embarked on a trip covering several countries along the Baltic Sea coast. He is active as **LY/DL2VFR until July 13th**. Further on his way, we expect **YL/DL2VFR**, **ESØ/DL2VFR** (EU-034), **ES/DL2VFR**, and **OH/DL2VFR**. QSL via [DL2VFR](#).

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

OE, AUSTRIA. The special event stations **OE2XXM** and **OE5XXM** get on the air around the 39th international ham meeting in Gosau. QRV during **July and September** on 80, 40, 2m, and 70cm. For more information see: <https://www.qrz.com/db/oe2xxm> and <https://www.qrz.com/db/oe5xxm>. QSL via bureau.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0801)

OX, GREENLAND. Bo, OZ1DJJ will be active again as **OX3LX** from Nuuk, Greenland (NA-018) from **July 14th to 29th**. One- or two-day trips to IOTA group NA-220 are possible. As always, this will be a working trip, and he will be QRV only in his spare time. QSL via [OZØJ](#), [ClubLog's QQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0801)

PJ2, CURACAO. This year the Dave Kalter Youth DX Adventure will see a team of four teenagers (namely AD8FQ, AD8IR, KJ5CMP, and KJ5JR) be active again as **PJ2Y** from Curacao (SA-099) on **July 17th-22nd**. More information on <https://youthdxa.org>.

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

SP, POLAND. Special callsign **SN92LOT** will be active on **July 1st-31st** to commemorate the 92nd anniversary of the ill-fated flight of Lithuanian pilots Steponas Darius and Stasys Girenas. On July 15, 1933, they attempted a nonstop flight from New York City to Kaunas in a small airplane named "Lituanica". After crossing the Atlantic Ocean, they crashed on July 17 when they were only 400 miles short of their final destination. QSL via [SP1PMY](#).

-[425DXN # 1781 June 21, 2025] (0627-0801)

SV/A, MOUNT ATHOS. The DX World website reports that Monk Pausolipios from the monastery Docheiariou plans to operate as **SV2TOWIA** with the late Monk Apollo's equipment. Currently he is waiting for the necessary permits from the Athos administration.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

T3Ø, WEST KIRIBATI. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as **T3ØTTT** from North Tarawa **until September 8th**. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8, and FT4 with up to 10 stations active. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 25 June 19, 2025] (0620-0905)

TF, ICELAND. Michael, VE2XB will be active as **TF/VE2XB** from Olafsvik, Iceland (EU-021) from **July 11th to 25th**. He will operate CW and SSB on 80-10 meters. QSL via [VE2XB](#).

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

TY, BENIN. Red, DL1BUG will be active again as **TY5FR** from Cotonou, Benin from **July 9th to August 6th**. He will operate CW and SSB on 80-10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or via [DL1BUG](#).

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0704-0808)

TY, BENIN. New station **TY5AD** is sponsored and remotely controlled by the Russian DX Team. Hosted near Cotonou, Benin, the station runs 100 watts into a vertical antenna and can be operated on 80-10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW within 2-3 days after that request.

-[425DXN # 1783 July 5, 2025] (0704-0725)

UAØ, ASIATIC RUSSIA. Team **RIØCR** (R3BY, R5EM, RU3EG, RU5D, RW3XA, RZ3EC and UA3EDQ) will be active from Ustrichnyy Island (AS-114) on **July 15th-20th**. They will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 40-10 meters. See <https://robinsons.ru/ri0cr/> for more information. QSL via [RZ3EC](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1779 June 7, 2025] (0711-0725)

V3, BELIZE. Josh, W9HT will be QRV as **V31GT** **until July 14th**. He plans to operate in the IARU HF Championship (July 12th-13th) using CW and SSB and maybe digital modes outside of the contest, as time permits. QSL via [W9HT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0718)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Pete, GØTLE will be QRV as **V47EM** from St. Kitts (NA-104) from **July 20th to August 2nd**. Activity will be holiday style, using CW and SSB on 80 to 10 meters, including an entry in the IOTA contest. QSL via LoTW, OQRS or [GØTLE](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0718-0801)

VE, CANADA. Stuart, VA7QB, celebrates the IARU jubilee as **XL7IARU** **during July** on CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via [VA7QB](#).

-[DXNL # 2461 June 4, 2025] (0627-0801)

VE, CANADA. Pierre, VE3KTB will be active again as **VYØERC** from the Eureka Amateur Radio Club station on Ellesmere Island (NA-008) from **June 26th to July 24th**. He operates SSB, CW and FT8 on various bands when time permits. He plans to operate as **VYØRAC** during the RAC Canada Day Contest (July 1st). QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1781 June 21, 2025] (0620-0725)

YL, LATVIA. Ric, DL2VFR, has embarked on a trip covering several countries along the Baltic Sea coast. From **July 13th to 19th**, he signs **YL/DL2VFR**. Further on his way, we expect **ESØ/DL2VFR** from EU-034, **ES/DL2VFR**, and **OH/DL2VFR**. QSL via [DL2VFR](#).

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

YN, NICARAGUA. Rafael, NN3RP will operate holiday style as **YN2RP** from **July 12th to August 5th** on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, FT8 and FT4, and maybe via FM satellites. QSL via [NN3RP](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) or LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0808)

ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Adrian, GØKOM, expects to get on the air as **ZC4MK** from **July 8th to July 16th**. He plans to set up a Hex Beam if he can find a suitable mast and location, and a wire antenna for 80-10m. QRV with 100W on CW and SSB. QSL via GØKOM.

-[DXNL # 2466 July 9, 2025] (0711-0718)

ZD7, ST. HELENA. Tim, NØUI, will be active as **ZD7TIM** from **July 5th to 13th** on 40-6m (CW, SSB, maybe RTTY), including a CW entry in the IARU HF World Championship (July 12th-13th). QSL via NØUI, LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2465 July 2, 2025] (0704-0718)

ZD8, ASCENSION I. Larry, KI6LT will be active as **KI6LT/ZD8** from Ascension Island (AF-003) from **July 15th to 21st**. In his spare time he will operate SSB on 40-10 meters.

-[425DXN # 1784 July 12, 2025] (0711-0725)

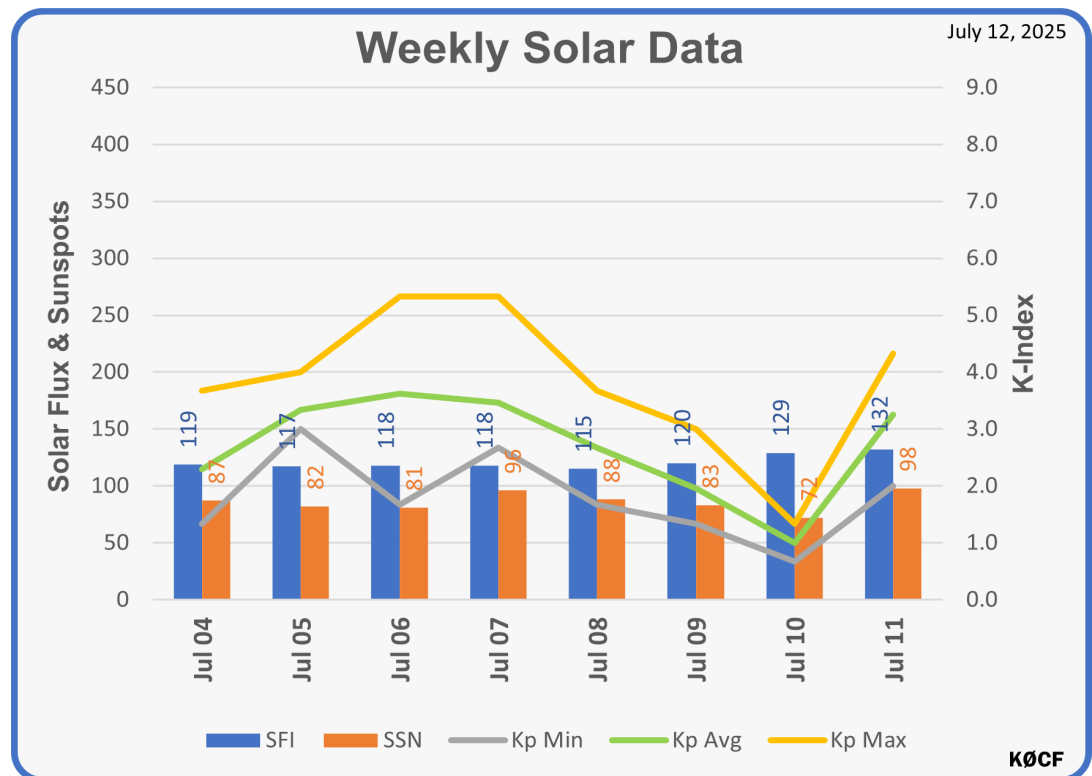
ZL, NEW ZEALAND. HQ multiplier **ZL6HQ** will be active in the IARU HF Championship (**July 12th-13th**), with ZL3IO, Holger, operating.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 July 10, 2025] (0711-0718)

ZL, NEW ZEALAND. Special callsign **ZL1ØØIARU** will be used by New Zealand's IARU member society, NZART, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union **until July 31st**. QSOs will be uploaded to QRZ Logbook and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1776 May 17, 2025] (0516-0801)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's

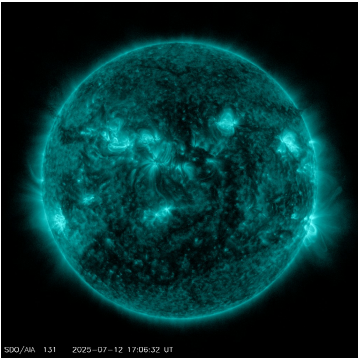
NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, July 4th through yesterday, July 11th.

The average solar flux was 121, down 4 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 132 on Friday, July 11th, following a low of 115 on July 8th.

The average sunspot count was 86, down by 44 from last week, peaking at 98 on Friday, July 11th after a weekly low of 72 on July 10th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.8 with a maximum of 5.3 on Monday, July 7th, indicating a minor geomagnetic storm. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 4.3 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since July 5th has been low with 5 major flares, the largest of which was an M 2.4 event on Tuesday, July 8th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, July 5th through 1335 UTC, July 12th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Jul 12	1210	M 1.6
2	Jul 12	0834	M 2.3
3	Jul 12	0402	M 1.4
4	Jul 09	0425	M 1.3
5	Jul 08	0417	M 2.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Jul 12	50%	5%	135
Jul 13	50%	5%	135
Jul 14	50%	5%	135

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on July 7, 2025).

Date	Flux	Kp
Jul 12	105	4
Jul 13	105	3
Jul 14	110	3
Jul 15	115	4

Date	Flux	Kp
Jul 16	120	4
Jul 17	125	4
Jul 18	125	4
Jul 19	125	4

Date	Flux	Kp
Jul 20	125	2
Jul 21	120	2
Jul 22	120	4
Jul 23	120	5

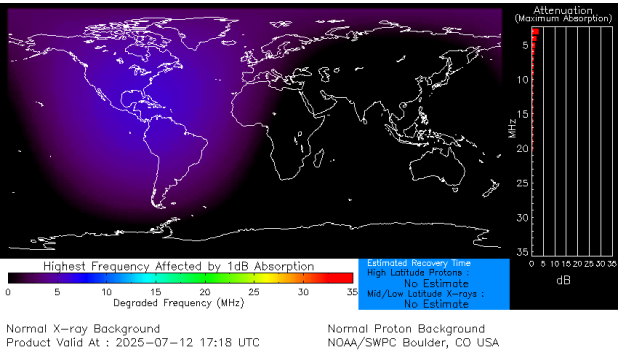
Geomagnetic Storm Watch (G1)

Minor [G1](#)-class geomagnetic storms are possible this weekend, July 12th or 13th, as Earth enters a stream of high-speed solar wind. The gaseous material is flowing from [an equatorial hole](#) in the sun's atmosphere.

(Copyright © [SpaceWeather.com](#) July 12, 2025. Republished by permission.)

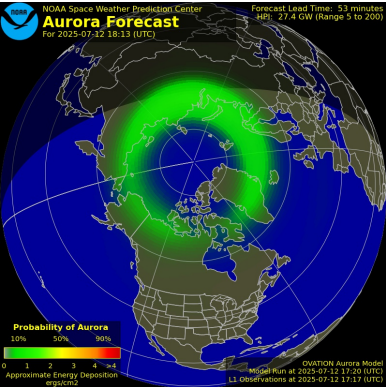
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)
NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>
<https://www.spaceweather.com/>
<https://www.solarham.com/>
<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!
-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
IARU HF World Championship	Jul 12	1200Z	Jul 13	1200Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 19	1800Z	Jul 20	0600Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 19	1800Z	Jul 20	2100Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Aug 2	1800Z	Aug 3	0600Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, CW	Aug 9	0000Z	Aug 10	2359Z	Rules
Maryland-DC QSO Party	Aug 9	1400Z	Aug 10	0400Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Aug 16	1800Z	Aug 17	0600Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Aug 17	1800Z	Aug 17	2359Z	Rules
Ohio QSO Party	Aug 23	1600Z	Aug 24	0400Z	Rules
YO DX HF Contest	Aug 30	1200Z	Aug 31	1200Z	Rules
World Wide Digi DX Contest	Aug 30	1200Z	Aug 31	1200Z	Rules
Kansas QSO Party	Aug 30	1400Z	Aug 31	2000Z	Rules
Tennessee QSO Party	Sep 7	1700Z	Sep 8	0300Z	Rules
ARRL September VHF Contest	Sep 13	1800Z	Sep 15	0300Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	Sep 20	1200Z	Sep 21	1200Z	Rules
New Jersey QSO Party	Sep 20	1400Z	Sep 21	0159Z	Rules
Texas QSO Party	Sep 20	1400Z	Sep 21	2000Z	Rules
Wisconsin Parks on the Air	Sep 20	1600Z	Sep 20	2300Z	Rules
Washington State Salmon Run	Sep 20	1600Z	Sep 21	2400Z	Rules
New Hampshire QSO Party	Sep 20	1600Z	Sep 21	2200Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Sep 21	0000Z	Sep 21	0359Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	Sep 27	0000Z	Sep 28	2400Z	Rules
Maine QSO Party	Sep 27	1200Z	Sep 28	1200Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	Oct 4	0600Z	Oct 5	0600Z	Rules
California QSO Party	Oct 4	1600Z	Oct 5	2200Z	Rules
QRP ARCI Fall QSO Party	Oct 11	0000Z	Oct 11	2359Z	Rules
Makrothen RTTY Contest	Oct 11	0000Z	Oct 12	1559Z	Rules
Nevada QSO Party	Oct 11	0300Z	Oct 12	2100Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, CW	Oct 11	0600Z	Oct 12	0600Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Oct 11	1200Z	Oct 12	1200Z	Rules
Arizona QSO Party	Oct 11	1500Z	Oct 12	0500Z	Rules
Pennsylvania QSO Party	Oct 11	1600Z	Oct 12	0400Z	Rules
	Oct 12	1300Z	Oct 12	2200Z	
South Dakota QSO Party	Oct 11	1800Z	Oct 12	1800Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]

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